

RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

ATTEMPT TO ISOLATE PORT ARTHUR.

JAPANESE EMBARK 100,000 MEN.

THE FIGHT OFF CHEMULPHO.

JAPANESE DO TERRIBLE EXECUTION.

ATTACK ON RAILWAY LINE.

REPULSED BY THE RUSSIANS.

LONDON, Feb. 17.

It has been ascertained that the Japanese landed some troops at Kien-chau, the narrow neck of land to the north of Port Arthur, in order to seize the railway. It is now stated that the Japanese have been expelled from this position.

The Russian report that in expelling the Japanese they suffered a loss of 70 killed, but declare that 150 Japanese are prisoners.

Advices from St. Petersburg are to the effect that the Japanese are making a feint towards the Yalu, and that their real object is to cut the railway line to Port Arthur.

The "Daily Telegraph" reports that Japan is embarking 100,000 men within the next few days and that their destination is unknown.

JAPANESE WARSHIPS NEAR NIU-CHWANG.

LONDON, Feb. 16.

Japanese warships have been seen within 10 miles of Niu-chwang.

THE CHEMULPHO FIGHT.

A GRAPHIC DESCRIPTION.

TERRIFIC FIRE OF THE JAPANESE.

RUSSIAN CRUISER A LIVING HELL.

CREWS SWEEP FROM THE GUNS.

LONDON, Feb. 17.

The recent correspondent of the "Daily Mail" reports that in the engagement between the Japanese squadron under Rear-Admiral Uru and the Russian cruiser Varyag and the gunboat Chesma, the Japanese opened fire at 8000 yards. The fire was mainly directed against the Varyag.

The Russian vessel manoeuvred rapidly so as to avoid the fire.

Five shells struck the Varyag in quick succession. One shell killed or disabled all the crew on one of her fore-castles gun.

Another shell struck a portion of the gun, and produced a sheet of flame as high as the fighting top. A third shell demolished the fore-castle and set fire to the debris.

The Russian guns ceased firing for 15 minutes.

Shrapnel fire from the Japanese ships repeatedly swept the crews from the guns of the Varyag. A shell penetrated the cruiser on the waterline.

The ship was a living hell, the red hot shells burning the flesh of the victims horribly.

The absence of gun shields for protecting the crews caused unnecessary loss of life on the Varyag.

The Russians, though fired and hemmed in by the terrific fire, continued to work their guns.

A lieutenant on the Varyag states that blood flowed everywhere from severed limbs, torn bodies, and ripped flesh.

The steering gear of the Varyag became disabled, and the captain endeavoured to run her aground, but time for a minute could not be secured to remain near the shore, as the Varyag had a heavy list to one side.

The Corvett, in retreating, turned and fired her six guns alternately. They were well handled. The Varyag used her guns in a similar fashion.

The Japanese thereupon refrained from firing upon the doomed ships. Throughout the engagement the Japanese ships remained untouched by the Russian fire.

DESCRIPTION BY A MILITARY WITNESS.

RUSSIANS BEWILDERED.

LONDON, Feb. 16.

A United States general who witnessed the fight off Chemulpho states that the Japanese opened fire at the rate of 10 shots a minute.

The explosions of the shells fired by the Japanese produced upon the Russians a blinding and a bewildering effect.

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THE JAPANESE NEW CRUISERS.

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The Japanese new cruisers, the Nishino and the Kasuga, have arrived at Yokohama.

THE PRICE OF FAILURE.

MOVEMENT TO SUPERSEDE ALEXIEFF.

DIVISION OF LAND AND SEA COMMANDS.

LONDON, Feb. 17.

Public feeling in Russia, even in military circles, is strongly against Admiral Alexieff, who is accused of incapacity.

There is a movement in favour of the immediate appointment of General Kurapatin, the Minister for War, to command the forces on land, and of Vice-Admiral Skrydlov, Commander of the Black Sea fleet, to command on sea.

Vice-Admiral Makarov, the commander of the fortress at Cronstadt, has started for the Far East.

The Japanese Government has directed that all Russians shall be treated by the Japanese with the utmost consideration.

AMERICAN VETERANS FOR JAPAN.

LONDON, Feb. 17.

Despite Japan's declaration that she cannot accept the service of foreigners in the operations against Russia, 60 residents of Chicago, many of them veterans of the Spanish-American war, are sailing from Pacific ports and will meet at Tokyo.

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CABLE TO JAPANESE CONSUL.

ANOTHER VERSION OF THE PORT ARTHUR BOMBARDMENT.

SEVEN RUSSIAN SHIPS DAMAGED.

LONDON, Feb. 16.

Another account of the Japanese attack upon Port Arthur last week was received by the Acting Consul-General at Japan (Mr. Iwasaki) late last night in the form of a cable from Baron Komura, the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs. It will be observed that it differs in several particulars from the previous published reports of the engagement. The dispatch reads:

"According to a certain foreign officer who happened to be at Port Arthur on the 18th and 19th inst., the Russian fleet was destroyed by the Japanese fleet on the 18th inst. The Japanese fleet consisted of the battleship Mikasa (12,110 tons) was taken into the port, whilst the cruiser Pallada (6,600 tons) is lying aground at the entrance. The three vessels are now under attack. By the bombardment of the Japanese fleet on the following morning the cruiser Novik (1,000 tons) was damaged seriously, while the cruiser Askold (4,100 tons) and Diana (4,600 tons) and the turret ship Poltava (10,500 tons) were only slightly damaged."

In spite of the Government's opposition, the "Times" manages to get early and exact information from Russia, and it is not surprising to hear, through this source, that Vice-Admiral Alexieff, who is accused of incapacity, is the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs. It will be observed that it differs in several particulars from the previous published reports of the engagement. The dispatch reads:

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